

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) An apparatus for providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

a first section having a first group of at least one magnetic frame member, the first section being coupled to the first structure; and

a second section having a second group of at least one magnetic frame member, the second section being coupled to the second structure,

wherein the first and second sections present magnetic force therebetween,

wherein the second group of at least one magnetic frame member is provided within the first group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first group of at least one magnetic frame member has a first direction of magnetic poles, the second group of at least one magnetic frame member has a second direction of magnetic poles, and the first direction is opposite to the second direction,

wherein the first section includes a first number of at least one magnetic frame member, the second section includes a second number of at least one magnetic frame member, and a difference between the first number and the second number is no more than 1, and

wherein the first number is more than 1, the second number is more than 1, a first pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the first group is smaller than a second pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the second group.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein a ratio of the second pitch to the first pitch is more than 1 and less than 1.5.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) An apparatus for providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

a first section having a first group of at least one magnetic frame member, the first section being coupled to the first structure; and

a second section having a second group of at least one magnetic frame member, the second section being coupled to the second structure,

wherein the first and second sections present magnetic force therebetween,

wherein the second group of at least one magnetic frame member is provided within the first group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first group of at least one magnetic frame member has a first direction of magnetic poles, the second group of at least one magnetic frame member has a second direction of magnetic poles, and the first direction is opposite to the second direction,

wherein the first section has a third group of at least one magnetic core, and

wherein the third group of at least one magnetic core is provided within the second group of at least one magnetic frame member.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the third group of at least one magnetic core has a third direction of magnetic poles, and the third direction is the same as the first direction.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the first section includes a third number of at least one magnetic core, and the third number is the same as the first number.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the third number is more than 1, a third pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the third group is smaller than a second pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the second group.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein a ratio of the second pitch to the third pitch is more than 1 and less than 1.5.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first, second and third numbers are 4, 3 and 4, respectively.

14-17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) A method of providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

coupling a first section to the first structure, the first section having a first group of at least one magnetic frame member; and

coupling a second section to the second structure, the second section having a second group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first and second sections present magnetic force therebetween,

wherein the second group of at least one magnetic frame member is provided within the first group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first group of at least one magnetic frame member has a first direction of magnetic poles, the second group of at least one magnetic frame member has a second direction of magnetic poles, and the first direction is opposite to the second direction,

wherein the first section includes a first number of at least one magnetic frame member, the second section includes a second number of at least one magnetic frame member, and a difference between the first number and the second number is no more than 1, and

wherein the first number is more than 1, the second number is more than 1, a first pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the first group is smaller than a second pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the second group.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein a ratio of the second pitch to the first pitch is more than 1 and less than 1.5.

20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) A method of providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

coupling a first section to the first structure, the first section having a first group of at least one magnetic frame member; and

coupling a second section to the second structure, the second section having a second group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first and second sections present magnetic force therebetween,

wherein the second group of at least one magnetic frame member is provided within the first group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first group of at least one magnetic frame member has a first direction of magnetic poles, the second group of at least one magnetic frame member has a second direction of magnetic poles, and the first direction is opposite to the second direction,

wherein the first section has a third group of at least one magnetic core, and

wherein the third group of at least one magnetic core is provided within the second group of at least one magnetic frame member.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the third group of at least one magnetic core has a third direction of magnetic poles, and the third direction is the same as the first direction.

23. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the first section includes a third number of at least one magnetic core, and the third number is the same as the first number.

24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein the third number is more than 1, a third pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the third group is smaller than a second pitch of the magnetic frame members included in the second group.

25. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein a ratio of the second pitch to the third pitch is more than 1 and less than 1.5.

26. (original) The method of claim 25, wherein the first, second and third numbers are 4, 3 and 4, respectively.

27. (previously presented) A method for making an object using a lithography process, wherein the lithography process utilizes a method of providing support between a first structure and a second structure, the method including

coupling a first section to the first structure, the first section having a first group of at least one magnetic frame member; and

coupling a second section to the second structure, the second section having a second group of at least one magnetic frame member,

wherein the first and second sections present magnetic force therebetween.

28. (previously presented) A method for patterning a wafer using a lithography process, wherein the lithography process utilizes a method of providing support between a first structure and a second structure, the method including

coupling a first section to the first structure, the first section having a first group of at least one magnetic frame member; and

coupling a second section to the second structure, the second section having a second group of at least one magnetic frame member; wherein

the first and second sections present magnetic force therebetween.

29-31. (canceled)

32. (currently amended) An apparatus that supports a first structure relative to a second structure, comprising:

a first member that includes a first magnetic member having a magnetic pole; and

a second member that includes a cylindrical shell having a magnetic member;

wherein the direction of the magnetic pole of the first magnetic member is substantially parallel to a support direction of the first structure,

wherein a cross section of the first member cut by a plane perpendicular to the support direction has a circular outer periphery,

wherein the cylindrical shell surrounds at least an outer surface of a part of the first member,

wherein the first member and the second member present magnetic force therebetween, and

wherein one of the first member and the second member is connected to the first structure, and the other of the first member and the second member is connected to the second structure.

33. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein a shape of the first member is column.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein the cylindrical shell includes a second magnetic member that has a magnetic pole.

35. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the direction of the magnetic pole of the second magnetic member is substantially parallel to a support direction of the first structure.

36. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 32, further comprising:

a third member that includes a second cylindrical shell having a magnetic member,

wherein the second cylindrical shell surrounds at least an outer surface of a part of the second member,

wherein the third member being coupled to the one of the first and second structures to which the first member is connected, and

wherein the second member and the third member present magnetic force therebetween.

37. (currently amended) A method of providing support between a first structure and a second structure, comprising:

connecting a first member to the first structure; and

connecting a second member to the second structure,

wherein the first member includes a first magnetic member that has a magnetic pole,

wherein the direction of the magnetic pole of the first magnetic member is substantially parallel to a support direction of the first structure,

wherein a cross section of the first member cut by a plane perpendicular to the support direction has a circular outer periphery,

wherein the second member includes a cylindrical shell that has a magnetic member,

wherein the cylindrical shell surrounds at least an outer surface of a part of the first member, and

wherein the first member and the second member present magnetic force therebetween.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein a shape of the first member is column.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the cylindrical shell comprises a second magnetic member that has a magnetic pole.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the direction of the magnetic pole of the second magnetic member is substantially parallel to a support direction of the first structure.

41. (currently amended) The method of claim 37, further comprising:

connecting a third member to the one of the first and second structures to which the first member is connected,

wherein the third member includes a second cylindrical shell that has a magnetic member,

wherein the second cylindrical shell surrounds at least an outer surface of a part of the second member; and

wherein the second member and the third member present magnetic force therebetween.

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